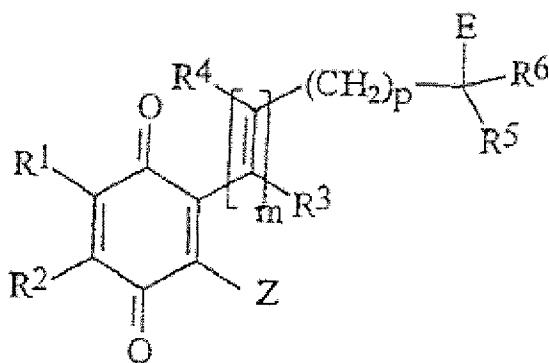


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-5 (Cancelled).

6. (Previously Presented) A bioreductive conjugate of the formula II:



(II)

(wherein

R^1 and R^2 independently represent hydrogen or halogen atoms, or a group R, OR, SR, NHR, NR_2 , CO_2R or CONHR;

or, alternatively, R^1 and R^2 together with the intervening ring carbon atoms form a 5-7 membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring itself optionally substituted by one or more halogen atoms, or by one or more groups selected from R, OR, SR, NHR, NR_2 , CO_2R and CONHR;

Z represents an alkyl, alkenyl, aryl or aralkyl group optionally carrying at least one OH, SH, NH_2 or NHR^7 group in which R^7 is an alkyl group or Z represents a group of the formula $-XH$ where X represents an oxygen or a sulphur atom, or a group of formula NY in which Y represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 independently represent hydrogen atoms or an alkyl or alkenyl group;

each group R independently represents a hydrogen atom, an alkyl or alkenyl group;

E represents the residue of a therapeutic agent to be delivered, optionally attached via a linking group L which is an ester, phosphate ester, ether, amine, thiol or thiol ester group or any combination thereof;

$m = 0, 1, 2$ or 3 ; and

$p = 0$ or 2 ;

with the proviso that when $m = 1$ then $p = 0$)

or a salt thereof.

7. (Previously Presented) A bio-reductive conjugate as claimed in claim 6, wherein in formula II:

Z represents a group of the formula $(CH_2)_nXH$;

$n = 1, 2$ or 3 ;

X represents an oxygen or sulphur atom, or a group of formula NY in which Y represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group;

or a salt thereof.

8. (Currently Amended) A bio-reductive conjugate as claimed in claim 6, wherein in formula II:

Z represents a group of the formula XH in which X represents an amino group;

R^1 and R^2 each represent alkoxy groups or, together with the intervening ring carbon atoms, R^1 and R^2 form a benzene ring;

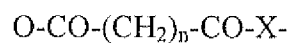
R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 each represent hydrogen atoms; and

$[[n=]]$ $m = 1$ and $p = 0$;

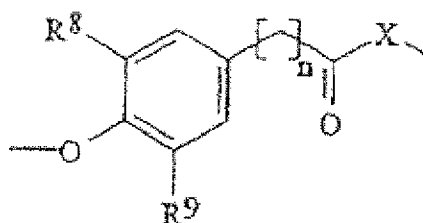
or a salt thereof.

9.-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) A bio-reductive conjugate as claimed in claim 6 wherein said linker group L if present is a group of the formula:



or



(wherein n is an integer from 1 to 3;

X represents a sulphur or oxygen atom; and

R⁸ and R⁹ each independently represent F or Cl).

18 and 19 (Cancelled).

20. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a bioreductive conjugate as claimed in claim 6, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, together with at least one pharmaceutical carrier or excipient.

21. (Previously Presented) A bioreductive conjugate as claimed in claim 6 for use in a method of targeting a therapeutic agent to a site of hypoxia and/or ischemia within the human or non-human animal body.

22. (Previously Presented) A method of treating-rheumatoid arthritis or other arthritic conditions, diabetes, atherosclerosis, stroke, sepsis, Alzheimer's disease and other neurological disorders, cancer, kidney disease, digestive diseases, liver disease, chronic periodontitis or ischemia following tissue transplantation comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an amount of the bioreductive conjugate as claimed in claim 6 sufficient to effect said treatment.

23.-24. (Cancelled).

25. (Previously Presented) A method of targeting hypoxic and/or ischemic tissues in the human or non-human animal body, said method comprising administering to said body a bioreductive conjugate as claimed in claim 6.

26.-28. (Cancelled).